



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER PHIL ANGELIDES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**TREASURER ANGELIDES, MAYOR BROWN,
ASSEMBLYMEMBER CHAN, HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS
CELEBRATE \$500,000 LOAN TO SUPPORT EXPANDED MENTAL
HEALTH, SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES**

*State Treasurer's Low Interest Loan Program Helps Community Health Facilities
Throughout California Expand and Improve Services*

OAKLAND, CA – California State Treasurer Phil Angelides, Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown, Assemblymember Wilma Chan (D-Oakland) and a coalition of health care providers today celebrated the award of a \$500,000 loan from the California Health Facilities Financing Authority's (CHFFA) HELP II program to Phoenix Programs Inc. to expand substance abuse and mental health treatment services. Chaired by Angelides, CHFFA provides direct, low-cost loans to support the expansion of community and rural health care facilities through the HELP II program.

"The high-quality services offered by Phoenix Programs at facilities throughout our state provide a lifeline for thousands of Californians," said Angelides. "This low-cost loan will help ensure Phoenix Programs has the resources necessary to continue to expand and improve its services."

Founded in 1973 in Contra Costa County, Phoenix Programs provides a range of rehabilitation services to disabled persons with severe and persistent mental illness. Additionally, Phoenix Programs offers social rehabilitation treatment services, support for homeless Californians, vocational programs and residential programs that include 24-hour supervised crisis treatment facilities and transitional living facilities.

Today's event took place at Phoenix Program's largest facility in California, Oakland's Henry Robinson Multi-Service Center, which currently serves approximately 160 children and adults who are homeless and suffer from mental illness. The facility provides transitional housing for 54 families and has 8 emergency housing units for another eight families. Phoenix Programs currently operates 50 facilities throughout California and will use today's loan to expand its services by replacing its Stockton facility with a new center in the Central Valley.

"This is a creative and fine example of how good government should serve the people putting dollars where they will make a real difference. It is a wonderful partnership for



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which our State should be justly proud,” said Dr. Michael Barrington, President and CEO of Phoenix Programs, Inc.

Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown joined the Treasurer in celebrating Phoenix Programs’ accomplishments and service to Oakland residents.

“Phoenix Programs is making a big difference in the City of Oakland, and today we celebrate the fact that these services will continue to be made available to people in need throughout our great state,” said Mayor Brown.

The HELP II program provides community and rural health care facilities with direct, low-cost, fixed-interest loans. The loans may be used to acquire new facilities or support the expansion or remodel of existing sites. Since Angelides took office in 1999, 93 health care facilities throughout California serving 718,000 patients have received HELP II loans totaling more than \$29 million.

The HELP II loan program is one in a series of initiatives launched by Angelides to increase economic opportunity and promote the revitalization of California communities that have too often been left behind. These “Double Bottom Line” and “Smart Investments” initiatives have directed more than \$25 billion in investment capital – through State programs and the State’s pension and investment funds – to provide assistance to and create economic growth in communities in need.

More information about HELP II can be found on the State Treasurer’s Website at <http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/chffa>.

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